AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-232

ANS is a free, weekly, news and information service of AMSAT North America, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to:
ans-editor@amsat.org

********** AMSAT 2006 Space Symposium **********

Online registration and hotel reservation for the 2006 AMSAT Space Symposium has been posted to the AMSAT website, and information about the Symposium has been expanded. The 2006 AMSAT Space Symposium will be held October 6, 7 and 8 at the Crowne Plaza in Foster City, California in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area.

Please visit http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/symposium for additional information and an index to the expanded Symposium web pages.

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.01
ISS Commander McArthur to Keynote at AMSAT Symposium

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.01
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.01

AMSAT is excited to announce that ISS Expedition 12 Commander William (Bill) S. McArthur, KC5ACR, will be the keynote speaker at the 2006 AMSAT Space Symposium to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City, California, October 6-8, 2006.

Commander McArthur is well known to ham radio operators - during his six months aboard the ISS he became the most active radio amateur ever to serve in space. Commander McArthur logged more than 1800 QSOs, and earned the ARRL Worked All States Award. His impressive track record also included a record 37 school contacts, Worked All Continents (including Antartica) and 130 DXCC entities.

Astronaut McArthur is a veteran of four space flights that include:
    * STS-58 - October 1993 (Spacelab Life Sciences Mission 2)

    * STS-74 - November 1995 (Shuttle-Mir Docking Missing 2)
    * STS-92 - October 2000 (ISS Assembly Mission 3A)
    * Expedition 12 - October 2005

In addition Bill has made four spacewalks (two each aboard STS-92 and Expedition 12) and was on backup crews of Expeditions 8, 9 and 10. He will be featured during the Annual Banquet on Saturday evening, October 7, 2006.

The 2006 Space Symposium will be a joint meeting with the ARISS International Delegates and will also include the IARU Satellite Advisory Panel annual meeting, and a meeting of AMSAT International Delegates. For additional information please visit the AMSAT website at http://www.amsat.org. Click on the 2006 Space Symposium link in the left side menu.

This year you can register for the Space Symposium online. Online Registration can be found at http://www.amsat-na.com/symposium

[ANS thanks Emily Clarke, N1DID, AMSAT 2006 Symposium Chair, for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.02
JAMSAT Announces a New Satellite Operating Award

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.02
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.02

Mikio Mouri, JA3GEP, President of Japan-AMSAT (JAMSAT) announced the availability of the new JAMSAT Five Stars Award on August 17, 2006.

JAMSAT's goal is to get more activity on amateur radio satellite communications, to get more hams interested in this aspect of the hobby, and to protect the frequency allocation of the amateur satellites.

This Award is opened for world wide, with following rules.

1. The applicant is required to establish a QSO with five(5) different stations over five (5) different Satellites. (Total 25 QSL Cards required)

2. Each specific satellite is counted once, even the QSO was made on different mode or band on the same satellite.

3. Valid only for 2way QSOs. Cross mode QSOs are not valid on this award.

4. The QSOs using Digital mode and SSTV are valid, however you are requested to get QSL Cards. (e-QSL is not acceptable.)

5. No specific endosement (eg. CW, SSB) is provided.

6. QSOs made after the January 1st, 2006 at 00:00 UTC are valid.

7. As for the application, no specific format is provided. You can use your own QSO list, however it is recomended to use formats used by ARRL or JARL. You need to have your application certified by 2 local radio amateurs, but please DO NOT send QSL cards to us. (We can not take any responsiblity for them.)

8. Fee on the application: Outside of Japan please send Ten(10) "NEW"
   IRCs with the application. Japanese radio amateurs should include
   800 yen by Postal Money Order. (If you are a member of the JAMSAT,
   then 400 yen is applicable).

9. Donations are welcomed: This is not a requirement, but any donations
   to build new amateur satellites will be most welcome. If you wish to
   donate, please add this amount to your award application fee. JAMSAT
   will remit your donations to AMSAT-DL and/or AMSAT-NA accordingly.
   (Please understand that the JAMSAT-Board is entitled to divide the sum
   of donations for each party and project.)

10. Mailing address--Please forward your application to the following.

    JAMSAT AWARD OFFICE
    For the attention of Mr. S. Murakami
    PO Box 26, Mizushima Post Office,
    Kurashiki, Okayama 712-8691, Japan

11. Questions and Information
    If you have had any questions, please send your message by e-mail to:
    madoguchi@jamsat.or.jp

[ANS thanks JAMSAT for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.03
Japanese HITSAT Amateur CubeSat to Launch September 23rd

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.03
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.03

Mineo Wakita JE9PEL has passed on the information that the launch
date of the HITSAT satellite is currently September 23rd.

HITSAT was developed by the student association 'Hokkaido Space Union'
of the Hokkaido Institute of Technology.

It will be launched from the Uchinoura Space Center on the M-V-7 rocket
as a sub-payload.

The main-payload of the launch is SOLAR-B.
http://www.isas.jaxa.jp/e/enterp/missions/solar-b/index.shtml

It is planned to go into a sun synchronous orbit with an orbital
altitude at perigee of 250km and 600km at apogee with an inclination
of 97.79 degrees.

HITSAT is a 12cm cube with a mass of 2.2 kg. It carries a 100 milliwatt
CW beacon on 437.275 MHz and an FM transmitter on 437.425 MHz with a
145.980 MHz uplink.

See the HITSAT Project web page at:
http://www.hit.ac.jp/~satori/hitsat/index-e.html

[ANS thanks Mineo, JE9PEL for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.04
SSTV Testing Continues from ISS

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.04
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.04

Cor, PD0RKC reports that Russian commander Pavel continues to test the SSTV equipment aboard the ISS Space Station. The most recent pictures this week were received on the 145.800 MHz downlink frequency.

There have been some equipment problems so it is only switched on when Pavel is near the transceiver, mostly in his presleep time on the passes in Moscow. You can see the 8 ISS SSTV pictures on Cor's website: http://www.pd0rkc.com. Cor also requests in case anyone has more ISS SSTV pics please send them to: skyman@hetnet.nl

MSNBC has an article about the SSTV from space at: http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2006/08/17/2213.aspx

In England, the Essex Chronicle newspaper featured David M0ZLB's achievement in receiving pictures from SpaceCam1 onboard the ISS on the front page. See the article on-line at: http://tinyurl.com/nqmee

[ANS thanks Cor, PD0RKC for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.05
Remember to Vote in the AMSAT BoD Election

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.05
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.05

If you have not mailed your AMSAT ballot , now is the time to do so! The ballot has to arrive at the office by September 15th. Look over the bios at http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/articles/2006_Board_Candidates/ and VOICE YOUR CHOICE and VOTE!!!

[ANS thanks Martha at AMSAT HQ for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.06
Commission Probing Dnepr Crash Presents Preliminary Conclusions

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.06
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.06

The commission investigating the crash of the Dnepr launch vehicle in Kazakhstan in July has come to its preliminary conclusions regarding the cause of the accident, Kosmotras, the company responsible for

the rocket's launch, said in a press release and reported by Interfax.

"The conclusions presented by the commission in its preliminary report indicate that the command system functioned without a hitch during the rocket's launch," the release reads.

The report continues, "A brief malfunctioning of the hydraulic gear of one of the combustion chambers of the first stage's engine unit is the reason behind the abortive launch. The cause of the hydraulic gear's failure has been established. The commission is preparing recommendations on how to repair this problem".

[ANS thanks the Moscow Staff Writers at SpaceDaily.com for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-232.07
OSCAR-11 Heard Again

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 232.07
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
August 20, 2006
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-232.07

In the OSCAR-11 Report for August 19, 2006, Clive, G3CWV told AMSAT members that, "OSCAR-11 IS BACK! During the period 17 July to 19 August 2006 the satellite was heard on 26 July for a few orbits, and then from 16 August. At the time of this writing it is currently transmitting."

Observation of the 145.826 MHz. beacon transmission times, indicate that the watchdog timer has timed out for five periods of 20.5 days during the eclipse season. The eclipses have now ended, and the satellite should be in continuous sunlight until next year. If the normal watchdog timer sequence continues, the beacon should switch OFF around 26 August, and restart around 06 September.

Clive expressed gratitude for the ground station help he has received from around the world. He wrote, " I am indebted to Peter ZL3TC, Dave G1OCN, and Dave WB6LLO for their reports and for monitoring the satellite during this period. Many thanks.

The satellite's attitude is controlled only by the passive gravity boom gradient, and the satellite is free to spin at any speed. After 22 years in orbit the battery has undergone around 100,000 partial charge/discharge cycles, and observations suggest that it cannot power the satellite during eclipses, or sometimes during periods of poor solar attitude.

Listeners to OSCAR-11 may be interested in visiting Clive's website which contains an archive of news & telemetry data. It also contains details about using a soundcard or hardware demodulators for data capture. There is software for capturing data, and decoding ASCII telemetry. The URL is www.users.zetnet.co.uk/clivew/. If you wish to contact Clive you can reach him at his [callsign@amsat.org] e-mail address.

[ANS thanks Clive, G3CWV for the above information]

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In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership in the President's Club. Members of the President's Club, as sustaining donors

to AMSAT Project Funds, will be eligible to receive additional benefits.
Application forms are available from the AMSAT Office.

73,
This week's ANS Editor,
JoAnne Maenpaa, K9JKM